

Title 1 Parent Engagement Calendar

Grade 6

September

Reading & Literacy Prompts	Math & Numeracy Prompts
• Academic Goal Setting: Have your child read school syllabi or goals. Write a short paragraph detailing two personal academic milestones they want to hit. • Active Annotation: Teach your child to read with a pencil. In the margins of a magazine or article, write questions, exclamation marks, or short tracking thoughts. • Genre Comparison: Compare a science fiction story with a fantasy story. Discuss how the underlying rules of technology vs. magic dictate the plot options. • Unlocking Prefixes: Explore prefixes like <i>un-</i>, <i>re-</i>, <i>dis-</i>, and <i>mis-</i>. Discuss how adding them alters the base verb or noun's meaning completely.	• Ratio Unit Conversions: Convert customary units using ratio reasoning (e.g., knowing 1 foot = 12 inches, use a ratio table to convert 4.5 feet into inches). • Evaluating Inequalities: Check if given numbers make an inequality true (e.g., does $x = 5$ satisfy the inequality statement $3x > 14$?). • Parallelogram Area: Cut a parallelogram out of paper. Move a triangle from one side to the other to show it forms a rectangle. Compute its area (Area = base $\times$ height). • Writing Expressions: Translate verbal descriptions into algebraic expressions (e.g., '5 less than triple a number' translates directly to $3x - 5$).

October

Reading & Literacy Prompts	Math & Numeracy Prompts
• Suspense Writing: Read a spooky story or mystery. Analyze how the author builds suspense using short sentences, dark imagery, or slow pacing. • Central Idea Evidence: Read a science article. Have your child state the main thesis statement and pick out the three strongest statistics or facts supporting it. • Irony Identification: Look out for instances of situational irony (when the opposite of what is expected happens). Discuss why it catches the reader's attention. • Word Choice Impact: Highlight vivid verbs and adjectives in a descriptive passage. Replace them with weaker synonyms to see how the story's energy changes.	• Integers on a Line: Create a giant vertical number line on a wall or door to represent elevation changes above and below sea level or a banking balance. • Simplifying Expressions: Practice combining like terms in a math expression (e.g., simplifying $3x + 4 + 2x - 1$ down to the core components $5x + 3$). • Statistical Spread: Look at a set of sports scores or test grades. Discuss what the Interquartile Range (IQR) tells you about the consistency of the data. • Practical Ratios: Mix kitchen ingredients (like water and rice) according to a strict ratio. Calculate how the amounts change if you need to feed 10 people.

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November

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• Persuasive Essay Prep: Choose a family topic (e.g., pet adoption, weekend plans). Have your child orally present a structured argument with three clear reasons. • Analyzing Points of View: Read a story told in the third-person omniscient voice (knowing everyone's thoughts). Discuss how it differs from a first-person perspective. • Historical Source Context: Read an old diary entry or historical document. Discuss how the time period influenced the writer's language and viewpoints. • Metaphor Mapping: Identify metaphors in text or music lyrics. Break down the two unrelated things being compared (e.g., 'time is a thief') and explain why.	• Coordinate Distance: Plot two points on a coordinate grid that share the same X or Y coordinate. Calculate the exact distance between them by counting units. • Net Surface Area: Wrap a small gift box. Before taping, measure each flat panel of the wrapping paper to compute the total surface area required. • Fraction Operations: Mix fraction calculations into daily baking, practicing adding or subtracting fractions to adjust portions accurately. • Equations from Tables: Look at a table of values (e.g., Inputs: 1, 2, 3 -> Outputs: 5, 6, 7). Derive the underlying algebraic equation rule: $y = x + 4$.

December

Reading & Literacy Prompts	Math & Numeracy Prompts
• Reflective Essays: Reflect on the past year. Write a short narrative tracking an experience where a lesson was learned, using chronological text structures. • Evaluating Credibility: Look at news headlines together. Evaluate which headlines appear trustworthy and which look like sensationalized clickbait. • Poetry Analysis: Read a seasonal poem or song lyric. Have your child map out the rhythm, meter, and stanza breaks to understand its oral cadence. • Cross-Media Comparison: Listen to an audiobook version while reading along with the print book. Discuss how voice inflections alter character perception.	• Solving Multi-Step Math: Solve real-world multi-step math problems using household bills, tracking costs across weeks or months systematically. • Finding Percents: Calculate discounts or tips mentally (e.g., finding a 15% tip or 20% off sale items by utilizing 10% benchmarks). • Summarizing Datasets: Compile an annual summary of data (like monthly utility usage or chore hours). Describe the overall distribution curve shapes. • Polygons on Planes: Draw complex irregular shapes on a grid map. Subdivide them into simple triangles and rectangles to calculate the total combined area.

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• Central Argument: Listen to a news report or podcast together. Have your child identify the speaker's main claim and list two pieces of evidence they used to back it up. • Context Clues: When reading a challenging text, find an unfamiliar word. Use surrounding sentences to deduce the meaning, noting clues like synonyms or antonyms. • Point of View: Read a story segment and discuss how it would change if told from a different character's perspective. How does the narrator's bias impact the story? • Root Analysis: Find words with Greek/Latin roots (e.g., <i>bio</i>, <i>chrono</i>, <i>geo</i>). Break down how the prefix or root gives a clue to the word's meaning.	• Negative Numbers: Check the daily weather forecast. Find the difference between daytime highs and nighttime lows, tracking any temperatures below zero. • Ratio Realities: Compare quantities around the house (e.g., 'The ratio of windows to doors in this room is 4:2, which simplifies to 2:1'). • Net Layouts: Carefully unfold an empty cardboard box (like cereal) flat to inspect its 2D net. Measure and compute the total surface area. • Absolute Value: Draw a number line with chalk or paper. Step left and right of zero to demonstrate that distance (absolute value) is always positive.

February

Reading & Literacy Prompts	Math & Numeracy Prompts
• Compare Styles: Read a historical event in a textbook and then read a historical fiction story or poem about the same event. Compare how they present information. • Author's Tone: Read an opinion piece or editorial. Identify the author's tone (e.g., urgent, humorous, critical) and highlight specific words that reveal that mood. • Implicit vs. Explicit: Ask your child a question about their book where the answer is explicitly stated, then one where they must infer the answer based on clues. • Biographical Themes: Read a short biography. Discuss what internal and external conflicts the person faced and what major theme or lesson their life highlights.	• Unit Rate Price Check: Look at grocery items or receipts. Divide the total price by the ounces/pounds to calculate and compare the unit price of different brands. • Dividing Fractions: Use a recipe that calls for a fraction of a cup (e.g., $\frac{3}{4}$ cup). Figure out how many $\frac{1}{4}$-cup scoops are needed by modeling the division. • Coordinate Graphing: Draw a 4-quadrant grid. Plot points using positive and negative integer ordered pairs (X, Y) to create a hidden shape. • Data Measures: Gather the ages or heights of family members. Find the mean (average), median (middle value), mode (most frequent), and range.

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March

Reading & Literacy Prompts	Math & Numeracy Prompts
• Analyze Graphics: Look at an infographic, map, or chart in a non-fiction text. Have your child explain what information the graphic adds that the text lacks. • Word Connotations: Find words with similar meanings but different emotional impacts (e.g., proud vs. arrogant, thrifty vs. cheap). Discuss why the author chose them. • Plot Turning Points: Map out the climax of a book or movie. Discuss what decisions characters made that directly caused this major turning point. • Structural Features: Compare a page of a play (script format) with a page of a novel. Discuss how dialogue, staging, and narration differ structurally.	• Variables in the Wild: Write a math phrase using an unknown variable (e.g., 'The cost of dinner is \$15 plus \$3 per drink, or $15 + 3d$'). Solve for different values of d. • Long Division Mastery: Practice the standard long division algorithm by dividing multi-digit numbers (e.g., 4,375 divided by 25) without using a calculator. • Inequality Statements: Write household rules as inequalities (e.g., 'Your bedtime b must be less than 9:00 PM: $b < 9$'). Graph it on a number line. • Percent Breakdown: Look at a clothing tag showing fabric percentages (e.g., 60% cotton, 40% polyester). Convert these percents into decimals and simplified fractions.

April

Reading & Literacy Prompts	Math & Numeracy Prompts
• Fact vs. Opinion: Read an informational article. Have your child distinguish between concrete factual evidence and the author's subjective opinions or interpretations. • Character Motivation: Discuss a major choice made by a character. What internal values or external pressures motivated them to act that way? • Poetic Devices: Read a poem together. Identify structural elements like stanzas, rhyme schemes, or instances of figurative language like alliteration and personification. • Summarizing Texts: Write a concise 3-sentence summary of a chapter, ensuring it covers the main idea and key supporting details without personal opinion.	• Decimal Operations: Use a store catalog or receipt. Add, subtract, multiply, or divide prices containing decimals to solve real-world budgeting challenges. • Area of Triangles: Draw various triangles on grid paper. Measure the base and height, then apply the formula (Area = $0.5 \times \text{base} \times \text{height}$) to find the area. • Statistical Questions: Create a statistical question (e.g., 'How many hours of sleep do my classmates get?') and contrast it with a non-statistical one. • Order of Operations: Write a multi-step expression using exponents and parentheses. Solve it step-by-step using the correct PEMDAS order.

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May

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• Evaluate Sources: Look at two websites on the same topic. Compare which site seems more credible based on facts, expert quotes, and lack of bias. • Flashbacks & Foreshadowing: Discuss whether a book or movie uses flashbacks or hints about the future (foreshadowing). How does this affect the suspense? • Vocabulary Expansion: Identify academic or technical words in a science or history article. Look up definitions and use them in a daily conversation. • Theme vs. Plot: Ask your child: 'The plot is what happens, but what is the <i>theme</i> (the deeper message or lesson about life) of this story?'	• Exponents Practice: Explore exponential growth. Calculate values like 2^3, 3^3, or 5^3, noting the difference between multiplying bases vs. adding factors. • Equivalent Ratios: Mix a drink or recipe using a specific ratio (e.g., 2 cups juice to 3 cups water). Calculate how much is needed to double or triple the batch. • Histogram Creation: Collect data on how many minutes family members spend reading daily. Group the data into intervals and sketch a bar histogram. • Volume of Prisms: Measure a rectangular container (length, width, height) including fractional inches or centimeters. Calculate its exact volume ($V = l \times w \times h$).

June

Reading & Literacy Prompts	Math & Numeracy Prompts
• Summer Journaling: Encourage your child to keep a journal. Challenge them to focus on precise descriptive sensory details (sight, sound, smell) in their writing. • Graphic Novels: Read a graphic novel. Discuss how the visual framing, panel layouts, and text bubbles work together to convey mood and narrative pace. • Analyzing Dialogue: Read a dialogue-heavy scene. What do the characters' speech patterns, word choices, or interruptions reveal about their relationship? • Dystopian Themes: Read a classic science fiction or dystopian story. Discuss how the setting influences the main conflicts and the characters' behavior.	• Algebraic Solutions: Set up one-step algebraic equations based on daily scenarios (e.g., 'You have \$x. After spending \$5, you have \$12 left. What is $x - 5 = 12$?'). • Polygon Coordinate Maps: Plot four coordinates on a grid to form a polygon. Use the grid lines to calculate the length of the shapes' sides. • Outlier Effects: Take a set of numbers and add one massive number (an outlier). Calculate how the mean and median change when that outlier is added. • Metric Conversions: Look at food or product labels. Practice converting measurements between metric units (e.g., grams to kilograms, milliliters to liters).

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July

Reading & Literacy Prompts	Math & Numeracy Prompts
• Movie Adaptation Review: Read a short book or story, then watch the movie version. Analyze what scenes were altered, cut, or added, and evaluate why. • Informational Reading: Read a manual or assembly guide for a household appliance or game. Have your child explain the sequential steps in their own words. • Idiom Investigation: Spot common idioms used in conversation (e.g., 'barking up the wrong tree'). Discuss their figurative meanings versus literal interpretations. • Setting's Impact: If the story you are reading took place in a completely different time or country, how would the plot or character options change?	• Ratio Graphs: Create a table showing a constant ratio (e.g., \$10 earned per hour). Plot these ordered pairs (1, 10), (2, 20), (3, 30) on a coordinate plane. • Fraction Multiplication: Model multiplying a fraction by another fraction (e.g., $\frac{1}{2}$ of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cake) using paper folding or visual square drawings. • Box Plot Basics: Use a dataset to find the minimum, lower quartile, median, upper quartile, and maximum. Sketch a visual box-and-whisker plot. • Surface Area Challenges: Find the surface area of a triangular prism shape (like a Toblerone box or a folded tent card) by calculating the sum of all its faces.

August

Reading & Literacy Prompts	Math & Numeracy Prompts
• First Impression Analysis: Read just the first chapter of a new book. Predict the primary conflict, antagonist, and resolution based on early hints. • Reviewing Formats: Read a product or book review online. Identify the positive and negative points raised by the reviewer, evaluating if their critique is fair. • Text Structure Match: Look at different non-fiction paragraphs. Determine if the structure is description, cause/effect, compare/contrast, or problem/solution. • Author Bias: Look at two advertisements for competing products. Discuss how word choices are biased to make one product seem superior to the other.	• Independent Variables: Identify variables in real life (e.g., distance traveled depends on speed). Determine which is independent and which is dependent. • Factor Multiples: Find the Greatest Common Factor (GCF) and Least Common Multiple (LCM) for pairs of numbers (e.g., find GCF and LCM for 12 and 18). • Distributive Property: Practice mental math using the distributive property: 6×42 is the same as $(6 \times 40) + (6 \times 2)$. Calculate the total together. • Dot Plot Frequency: Roll a pair of dice 20 times. Track the sums on a dot plot to show the frequency distribution of your results visually.